

high rate of interest, the taxpayers are going to pay it, and the students will get a tiny, tiny cut, less than 1 percent.

Oh, that is a great deal, that is a great way to do this. Get rid of the banks, give the loans directly to the kids through the schools. You could give another 600,000 students loans next year at a much lower rate of interest. They have tried to eliminate the Safe and Drug-free School Program and after school programs. That is quite a record. But they have become born again on the issue of public education. Now they say what they really want to do is fight over how the money they did not want to spend on public education is spent because we have held them here against their will. Because they want to bolt out of town without finishing their work, we have managed to get another \$1.1 billion commitment for education. They are saying, well, they are really concerned about how that money might be spent. They want it to be spent under something called title VI. Title VI, the first 16 percent goes to administration. Republicans like that. And the other 84 percent can go to anything, does not go to teachers, smaller class size. It is not even necessary to be invested in rebuilding our schools.

They can spin and spin and spin as much as they want as they wax eloquent about the importance of public schools. They are a billion point one late and 4 days late.

#### CLINTON FOREIGN POLICY—A CAUSE FOR ALARM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my distinguished colleague from California.

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I just want to say to my colleagues in response to the last speaker in the well that, as the chairman of the Early Childhood Youth and Family Subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over all Federal education programs and policies from preschool through high school, we did in fact have hearings specifically on the different, the competing Republican and Democratic classroom size and teacher training proposals in this Congress, and I do not recall receiving any letter or indication of interest from the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I want to speak about foreign policy, a very difficult and delicate task these days. If it were an easy subject, I do not think the Nation's first President would have encouraged us to avoid foreign entanglements altogether, but it is precisely because it is difficult and because risks to Americans and our interests are so great that we have got to exercise all due care and diligence of an exercise of American foreign policy, and that particularly means using our troops and putting them in harm's way.

A successful foreign policy is built on clearly articulating American interests

and having the willingness to fight for those interests when and how best appropriate. In other words, knowing what we are doing, looking before we leap. A successful foreign policy is not built on photo opportunities, it is not built on eroding American capability by saying one thing and then doing another. And most certainly it is not built on appeasement.

Most Americans follow international events through the media. The press tends to provide us snapshots of what is going on in the world other than of course the sensational topic du jour that we read about inside the Beltway. The snapshots that have made their way through the haze lately, from Russia to Haiti to Bosnia to Sudan to Iraq, North Korea, to the Middle East are indeed a cause for a great deal of concern. When you take a close look at those events and what the Clinton administration is doing, and in some cases not doing, they are in fact a cause for alarm.

Bosnia:

When President Clinton committed troops to Bosnia in 1995, he promised they would be home by Christmas of 1996. Everybody remember Christmas 1996? Well, that deadline is almost 2 years passed, and our troops remain on the ground with no strategy in place for their withdrawal. Indeed the Clinton administration has no idea has no idea when the troops can be withdrawn. After several years and about 10 billion of taxpayers' funds, it would seem to me that the administration needs to start talking about bringing an end to this mission or accomplishing something more than we are.

Somewhat of an irony, just in the Speaker's Lobby outside of this Chamber we are invited to send Christmas messages and Christmas greetings to our troops in Bosnia. My message is: Hurry home. I wish it were possible to send that message. We cannot send that message in good faith because we do not have policy for that now, and I want to know why not.

And interestingly enough, the administration recently considered bombing Serbia over the Kosovo Province and, in fact, is considering supporting a deployment of some 2,000 observers from the Organization of Cooperation Security in Europe. Of that not many Americans know who is in the Organization of Security and Cooperation, what it is comprised of and what its capabilities are. But I guarantee you they will not be able to do much in Kosovo. I suppose they can watch, as we can watch, but I am not sure they will be able to do much more. I do not even know what the ground rules would be for such observers nor how to protect them. I imagine some would be Russians, some would be appeasers, and some would be other, and I do not know exactly what they would expect to do or how to do it. We need those details as we approach the 72-hour countdown before the ultimatum on using force in Kosovo.

North Korea:

Since 1994 the Clinton administration has pursued a policy of butter for guns

with North Korea. The reports out of North Korea suggest that despite its receipt of a hundred million in heavy fuel oil and two hundred million food aid, the dying regime of Kim Jong-Il, there have been repeated violations of the 1994 nuclear agreement that has continued to proliferate ballistic missiles, has continued to divert food aid from the starving population from the needy to the elites of the ruling class, the ruling few. The North Korean regime is engaged in narcotics trafficking and counterfeiting of American dollars.

At some point what this means is the administration is going to have to decide when North Korea has simply gone too far, what does it take? Can we not verify the deal that they are supposed to comply with?

In Iraq a similar situation exists. Since the end of the Gulf War the United States has taken a lead in ensuring Iraqi compliance with the ceasefire agreements. The administration has talked tough on Iraq. We all remember those words the President made, threatening use of force and engaging in a massive show of military might earlier this year. However, the reality is that the effectiveness of the U.N. arms inspections has been badly undermined by the United States. In addition to the mountain of evidence making that clear, the words of Scott Ritter, a former U.S. Marine and leading arms inspector, raises serious questions about the administration's commitment to eliminating Iraq's war making capability.

This is an issue with serious ramifications. In addition to the threat of chemical-biological weapons, Iraq has apparently hidden away components to build three nuclear weapons. It simply needs to acquire the necessary fissionable material on the international black market in order to produce a completed nuclear weapon. And we have withdrawn.

This is hardly get tough policy. We need to know more. We need to know now. We need to know it before we go home.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. WELLER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### MANY ISSUES FOR THE WANING HOURS OF THE 105TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, if I might just take a moment? I see my good friend, JOE KENNEDY, is on the floor of the House, and